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RELEASED IN PART
B1, 1.4(D)PAGE 01 CARACA 03670 161705Z
ACTION WHA-00

INFO	LOG-00	AID-00	A-00	CA-01	CCO-00	CG-00	COME-00
	CTME-00	DODE-00	DOEE-00	DOTE-00	SRPP-00	DS-00	EB-00
	EXIM-01	E-00	FAAE-00	FBIE-00	VC-00	FRB-00	H-01
	TEDE-00	INR-00	INSE-00	ITC-01	L-00	M-00	AC-01
	NRCE-00	NSAE-00	OCS-03	OMB-01	OPIC-01	PA-00	PM-00
	PRS-00	ACE-00	P-00	SCT-00	SP-00	SSO-00	SS-00
	STR-00	TRSE-00	T-00	USIE-00	USSS-00	ASDS-01	PMB-00
	DSCC-00	DRL-02	G-00	SAS-00	/013W		

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R 142129Z DEC 01
 FM AMEMBASSY CARACAS
 TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4295
 INFO CIA WASHDC
 DIA WASHDC
 NSC WASHDC
 AMEMBASSY BOGOTA
 AMEMBASSY BRASILIA
 AMEMBASSY QUITO
 AMEMBASSY LA PAZ
 AMEMBASSY LIMA
 USCINCSO MIAMI FL

C O N F I D E N T I A L CARACAS 003670

USCINCSO ALSO FOR POLAD

E.O. 12958: DECL: 11/23/11

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PAGE 02 CARACA 03670 161705Z
 TAGS: PREL, PGOV, PTER, ASEC, ECON
 SUBJECT: "AREPAS" 10

CLASSIFIED BY FREDERICK B. COOK, DCM. REASONS 1.5 (B) AND (D)

REF: CARACAS 03367

1. (U) THIS IS THE LATEST IN OUR SERIES OF CABLES REPORTING
 VARIOUS ITEMS OF INTEREST THAT HAVE TAKEN PLACE IN THE PAST WEEK.
 WE CALL THEM "AREPAS" FROM THE CORNMEAL MUFFINS THAT ARE A STAPLE
 OF VENEZUELAN CUISINE.

 CHAVEZ REACTIVATES HIS COUP CONSPIRATORS

UNITED STATES DEPARTMENT OF STATE
 CLASSIFIED BY DEPT. OF STATE, L. R. LOHMAN, DAS, A/ISS
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2. (U) ON DECEMBER 17, THE ANNIVERSARY OF SIMON BOLIVAR'S DEATH, CHAVEZ WILL REINAUGURATE THE BOLIVARIAN REVOLUTIONARY MOVEMENT-200 (MBR-200)--THE CONSPIRACY BEHIND HIS 1992 COUP ATTEMPT--AND WILL COMMISSION SOME 7,000 BOLIVARIAN CIRCLES ON CARACAS'S AVENIDA BOLIVAR. ORGANIZERS ARE ASPIRING TO HOST 200,000 PEOPLE AT THIS EVENT, WHICH SEEMS WILDLY OPTIMISTIC GIVEN THE SOMEWHAT DISAPPOINTING CROWDS AT RECENT HUGOFESTS.

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FROM THE RUMOR MILL

3. (U) RUMORS OF POLITICAL VIOLENCE ARE RUNNING RAMPANT AMONG ANTI-CHAVISTAS. "THEY JUST SHOT FREDDY BERNAL'S BROTHER-IN-LAW!" SAID ONE WELL-KNOWN COLUMNIST AND POLITICS PROFESSOR. WHO'RE THEY? "THEM," THE PROFESSOR EXPLAINED. (PROBABLY NOT TRUE.) "THE MVR JUST BEAT UP GENERAL BELASARIO LANZA OF THE NATIONAL GUARD," SAID AN ANTI-CHAVEZ ORGANIZER TO POLOFF. (UNTRUE.) VENEZUELANS, EVEN WELL EDUCATED ONES, MAY NOT BELIEVE WHAT THEY READ, BUT THEY DO BELIEVE WHAT THEY HEAR.

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